



WADENA COUNTY
SHERIFF
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Working For You. Working With You.

On Wednesday, September 25, 2013, the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a complaint regarding animal neglect in the City of Bluegrass. When Deputies arrived, they were not able to make contact with the homeowner but did observe horses and foals that were underweight. Contact was made with the Investigator of the Humane Society and Veterinary Services and the horses were examined on Friday, September 27, 2013. Of the 22 horses and 2 donkeys on the property; 12 of them were found to be malnourished. The horses were surrendered and picked up by High Tail Horse Ranch and Rescue where they will remain.

The owner of the horses, Valerie Elifrits, age 47, of Bluegrass, may be facing charges regarding this incident. Elifrits has been charged in the past for a similar incident. Reports will be forwarded to the Wadena County Attorney's Office for review once the investigation is concluded.